



State of Louisiana

BOBBY JINDAL
GOVERNOR

**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

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PRESS RELEASE

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LOUISIANA TO ASSIST IN MARYLAND DISASTER

BATON ROUGE, LA (April 12, 2010) – The Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) deployed a Public Assistance Specialist to the State of Maryland Sunday to assist with recovery efforts pertaining to the winter snowstorm that occurred December 18-20, 2009.

Maryland made the request through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a formal agreement that allows states in need to draw assistance from other states.

"Other states, including Maryland, have provided Louisiana with assistance in the past for disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike," said GOHSEP Director Mark Cooper. "This is our chance to show we are a willing partner and will be there for them in their times of need."

Public Assistance Specialist Keithan Williams will assist with Public Assistance applications to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). He will be deployed for two weeks.

Maryland received a Presidential Disaster Declaration on February 19, 2010.

EMAC was established in 1996 to allow states outside of a declared disaster area to render assistance to the state in need. EMAC has been used in a number of disasters, but the EMAC response to Katrina and Rita was, by far, the largest utilization of EMAC in the history of the compact.

In 2005, Maryland provided Louisiana with 454 law enforcement, search and rescue teams and National Guard troops in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The state provided 113 National Guard personnel to Louisiana for Hurricane Rita. In 2008,

Maryland sent 182 National Guard and law enforcement members to support Louisiana following Hurricane Gustav.

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